

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph found on page 8, lines 14 through 24, with the following substitute paragraph:

HMM 212 utilizes the feature vectors and endpoint information to recognize speech. HMM 212 analyzes the feature vectors between endpoints to produce a series of phones, which are input to phonetic dictionary 214 via path 328. Phones, also known as phonemes or phone-like units (plu), represent basic sound units of a spoken language. HMM 212 is a software module executed by CPU 128 to match feature vectors from a portion of speech data to one of the phones. ~~Hidden Markov Models are further discussed in Automatic Speech Recognition: The Development of the SPHINX System, by Kai Fu Lee, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Boston, 1989, which is hereby incorporated by reference.~~

Please replace the paragraph found on page 10, lines 4 through 14, with the following substitute paragraph:

The transformed phone dataset is output to HMM training process 418 via path 428. HMM training process 418 preferably utilizes the transformed phone dataset to produce a HMM 212 for a particular speech recognition application. HMM training process 418 typically creates a software model for each phone in the transformed phone dataset, and then each model is taught which speech data correspond to the model's phone using statistical learning techniques. ~~Hidden Markov Model training is further discussed in "Speaker Independent Phone Recognition Using Hidden Markov Models," by Kai-Fu Lee and Hsiao-Wuen Hon, IEEE Transactions on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing, Vol. 37, No. 11, 1989, pp. 1641-1648, which is hereby incorporated by reference.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 26, and ending on page 13, line 5, with the following substitute paragraph:

Transcription 714 captures many details of the acoustic-phonetic content of speech token 712. Composite-phone /bcl<h/ represents a b-closure with devoicing at the end of the phone. Composite-phone /s=z/ represents an s-fricative with voiced frication (hissing sound) affecting the entire phone. Composite-phone /kcl=v/ represents a k-closure that is completely voiced, and composite-phone /k=v/ represents a k-stop that is completely voiced. Composite-phone /v>tcl/ represents a t-closure that is voiced at the beginning of the base-phone. Composite-phone /t<a=h/ represents a t-stop with an epenthetic vowel process affecting the end of the base-phone with complete devoicing. ~~A description of these and other phonetic terms may be found in A Course in Phonetics, by Peter Ladefoged, Harcourt Press, 1982, which is hereby incorporated by reference.~~

Please replace the paragraph found on page 14, lines 5 through 17, with the following substitute paragraph:

Referring now to FIG. 8(a), a table for one embodiment of an extended base-phone set 810 is shown, according to the present invention. The FIG. 8(a) embodiment of extended base-phone set 810 of the present invention includes a subset 812 and a subset 814. Subset 812 includes the commonly-used TIMIT base-phone set. The TIMIT base-phone set includes base-phones that represent stops and affricates, fricatives, nasals, semivowels and glides, diphthongs and syllabics, vowels, silence, closure, pause, and stress. ~~The TIMIT base phone set is further described in "Speech Database Development: Design and Analysis of the Acoustic Phonetic Corpus," by L.F. Lamel et al., Proc. DARPA Speech Recognition Workshop, February 1986, pp. 100-109, which is hereby incorporated by reference.~~ The TIMIT speech corpus database is available on CD-ROM from the National Technical Information Service (www.ntis.gov).